

THE MONITOR

A Weekly Newspaper Devoted to the Interests of the Eight Thousand Colored People in Omaha and Vicinity, and to the Good of the Community

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Negro Business League Holds Annual Session

Boston Birthplace of Organization Welcomes Hundreds of Delegates and Visitors from all Sections of the Country.

REPORTS SHOW GREAT GROWTH

Since 1890 Membership Has Increased Until Branches Are Nationwide. Dr. Washington President.

Boston, Mass., Aug. 21.—Ordinarily known as the "Athens of America," the seat of learning, the "Hub City," the "City of Culture," the "Bean City" and various other cognomens indicating that Boston is a city devoted to the cultivation of the higher refinements, this week the city has been possessed by a different spirit. The atmosphere has been charged with commercialism and the spirit changed from contemplation of poetic times to consideration of ledgers and how to bring the balance from loss to profit.

So far as the Negro business man of the country is concerned, for this week, "all roads lead to Boston," and consequently this quaint old town is having a new experience. Fifteen years ago the National Negro Business League was born in this town, and the Bostonians are amazed at the wonderful growth of the lusty child. From all sections of the United States, from practically every state in the union, men and women of the race whose endeavors and struggles along commercial lines have led to the building of solid and enduring mercantile enterprises came into Boston by every train and boat for the purpose of exchanging ideas and experiences.

Royal Welcome to League.

Boston and her daughter, Cambridge, opened wide their arms and gave the members of the League a royal welcome. It was a happy idea that brought this body here for the celebration of its fifteenth anniversary. It furnishes an object lesson to the great New England section of what is being accomplished by the race in the sections of the country most thoroughly impregnated with racial prejudice and restrictions.

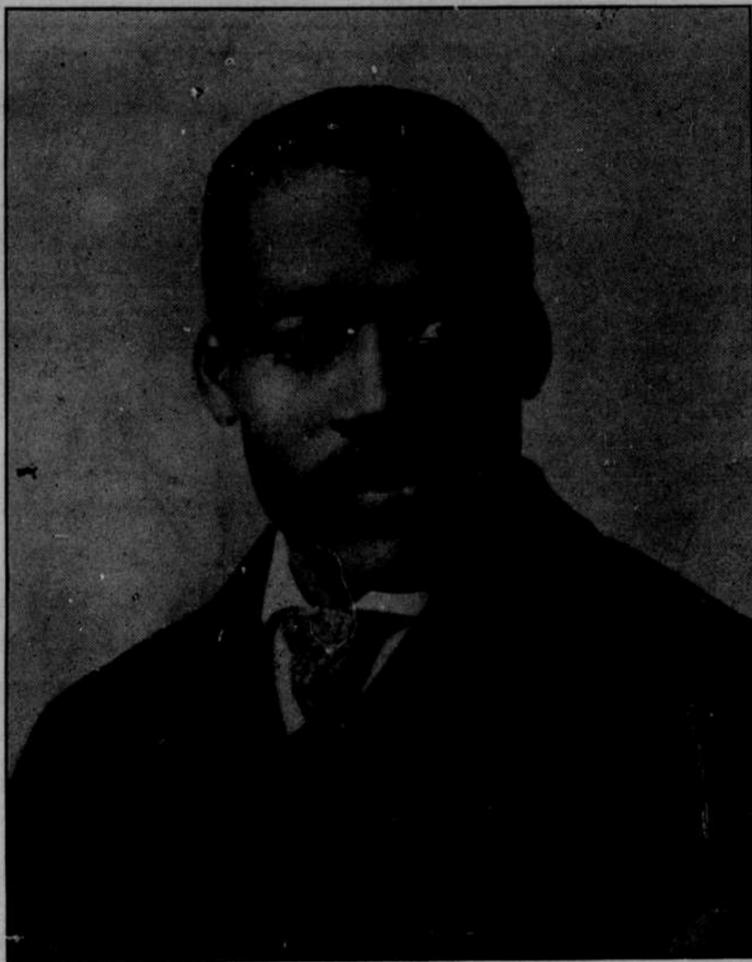
It was a busy scene around at 121 Kendall street, the Boston local league headquarters, where Benjamin F. Jones, chairman of the housing committee, had his headquarters. Here is where the delegates came when they reached the city to register their arrival and to secure information as to stopping places, arrangements for the meeting, and whatever other advice or consideration was desired. Mr. Jones had an ample corps of assistants, and the large number of incomers were handled with expedition and given satisfactory service.

The Opening Session.

Wednesday morning at 10:30 all the streets leading to the convention hall, Garrison and St. Botolph streets, were

Think on These Things

"Honest work for today, honest hope for tomorrow,
Are these no more than the hearts that they sadden,
The lives they make dreary, the hands they make weary?
'Hush!' the tenfold of Heaven doth say,
'He that overcometh shall all things inherit.'"



JOHN C. PARKER, Letter Carrier.

unusually lively. There were to be seen wending their way to the hall men and women whose attire and carriage betokened that they came from many different sections, but the air of earnest anticipation which was shown in their countenances gave evidence of a common purpose and desire, and showed also that they were all alike in that they were representatives of a class that has achieved something in this world.

The opening session was called to order by Dr. W. Alexander Johnson, president of the Boston Local Negro Business League No. 1, the first branch of the parent organization. The Rev. Cassius A. Ward, pastor of the Ebenezer Baptist church, West Springfield street, Boston, offered the opening prayer. Welcome addresses were delivered as follows: On behalf of the convention committee of the Boston Negro Business League, Philip J. Alison, fourth vice president of the national organization; on behalf of the Boston Negro Business League, No. 1, James R. Hamm, first pres-

ident of the Boston League; on behalf of the citizens of Boston, Stewart E. Hoyt, chairman of the citizens' committee; on behalf of the business and professional men and women of Boston and vicinity, the Hon. William H. Lewis of Boston; on behalf of the city, his honor, Mayor James M. Curley.

After suitable responses had been made, committees were appointed on credentials, resolutions, auditing and nominating.

Wednesday night, Convention Hall was crowded by an immense audience which listened with hearty approval and commendation to the masterly address delivered by Dr. Booker T. Washington, the national president. He took occasion to earnestly appeal for the suppression of lawlessness with a wisdom and temper that the Boston Transcript suggests in an editorial comment should be emulated by all men.

Thursday and Friday were devoted to business sessions and in listening

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Prejudice Provoking Photo-Play Prohibited

Dixon's Riot-Inciting "Birth of a Nation" Will Not Be Booked Among Auditorium Attractions.

AUTHORITIES ACT PROMPTLY

Acting Mayor Butler Wires Manager Franke Not to Book Photoplay When the Monitor Objects.

"The Birth of a Nation," the Negro-defaming, riot-inciting photoplay of Thomas Dixon's "The Clansman," will not be presented in Omaha's Auditorium and it is a safe conjecture that it will not be presented in any of the moving picture theaters of the city, although that is another story.

It was announced in the local press of Saturday night and Sunday morning that Manager Franke of the Auditorium had left for St. Louis, Chicago, Milwaukee and New York to book attractions for the popular amusement course to be given in the Auditorium and that among these attractions would be the photoplay, "The Birth of a Nation."

On Monday The Monitor waited on Acting Mayor Dan H. Butler, Mayor Dahlman being absent from the city, and was courteously granted an interview. The following facts were laid before him:

This play shows a colored woman and a white man living an immoral life together; represents the best women of the colored race leading lives of drunkenness and debauchery; shows a repulsive-featured and low type of a colored man chasing a little white girl for immoral purposes; represents the same innocent little girl dying to save the honor and virtue of Southern white women; represents Silas Lynch, a Negro lieutenant governor, locking a white woman in a room and attempting to force her to marry him; shows colored men preventing white men from voting, and justifies the killing of Negroes by the infamous Klu Klux Klan, and then to divert attention from these admittedly objectionable features, as an afterthought, has added scenes from Hampton Institute to show the progress of the Negro.

That objections have been made to the presentation of this photoplay in Boston, where it incited a riot; in Chicago, where Mayor Thompson refused to license its presentation; in New York, in Milwaukee, where the censors permitted it to be shown after cutting out two entire reels, Mayor Bender stating that the law gave him no authority to prevent its production, but that the censors would see that objectionable features tending to foment race prejudice should be eliminated; in San Francisco, where certain scenes were cut out; in Seattle, where its presentation was forbidden; in Des Moines, where a state law forbids the presentation of any plays tending to promote race prejudice; and in many other cities.

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